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The Earl Neff clippings – nostalgia from the golden age of ufology

By Clas Svahn

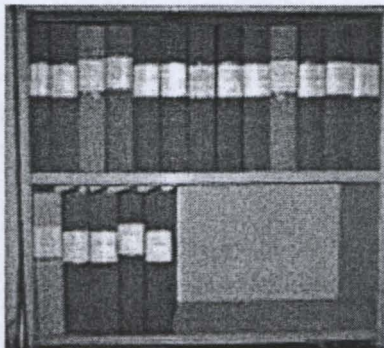
Translation by Stefan Isaksson

At the end of January, 2004, Archives for UFO Research received a donation of American press clippings from ufologist *Bill Jones* in Ohio. The box contained more than 2.000 unsorted clippings which once belonged to *MUFON Ohio* member *Richard Lee*, who had gotten most of them from the now deceased ufologist *Earl J. Neff*.

Clas Svahn has ordered the entire collection into twenty binders which are now all available for researchers at the Archives for UFO Research centre.

The donation contains many important articles from some of American UFOlogy's most intensive years. In the middle of the 1960s, numerous articles about UFOs and flying saucers could be found in American magazines, many of them being just as interesting today as when they were written. At this point in time the UFO phenomenon was taken very seriously and no self-respecting magazine could avoid discussing it.

The collection holds lots of fascinating reading. It's hard not to get stuck for hours. Most clippings come from the Ohio-based magazines *Cleveland Free Press* and *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, but there are also hundreds of other sources from all over the U.S.



The Cleveland magazines were very generous when it came to *space* (no pun intended). It was common for UFO articles to be on the front page, for example on November 5, 1966, when the entire top of the page was covered by the headline "*Flying saucers still a mystery – Called serious business*", followed by an article by tabloid journalist *Frank Edwards* who later, the same year, published a book with a similar title. The lengths of the articles were often extensive. It's easy to tell that both the public and the editors had a serious interest in UFOs.

Not many articles mention foreign sightings, perhaps because so many were reported in the U.S. One exception is an article in the *New York Times* dated July 14, 1968,

and headlined "*U.F.O.'s add spice to life of Latins*", where the reporter describes how the flying saucer debate – and several sightings – had come to enrich the daily life for people in Argentina and Chile. The article tells, among other things, of how young girls were afraid to go outside after Buenos Aires based magazine *La Razón* published the story of a married couple who lost consciousness during a car ride, only to wake up in their car outside Mexico City, 8.000 kilometres away. The story is most likely a hoax. According to the *New York Times* it was never confirmed despite investigations made by the governments of both countries.

Pulitzer price winner

Most other articles from the years 1966 to 1968 deal with American sightings. In the January 1966 edition of *Popular Science Magazine*, Pulitzer price winner *MacKinlay Kantor* wrote a piece under the headline "*Why I believe in flying saucers*". He reports of an event on January 4, 1954, when he witnessed how a bright shining semicircular object, after having hovered completely still in the sky, suddenly took off at a very high speed. Kantor later wrote a biography of one of America's most famous militaries, General *Curtis LeMay* (1906–1990), a man who Kantor came to know very well.

In the *Popular Science Magazine* article, Kantor tells of a discussion he had with General LeMay regarding the UFO phenomenon. LeMay is cautious about what he's saying, but still offers the following: "*Several of the mysteries can be explained as weather balloons, stars, reflexes, and other natural things. I'm not saying that among the cases where no solution has been found there are genuine, flying objects. All I can say is that among the unsolved cases, no natural phenomenon has been found that's able to explain them all. I repeat: There are a few cases we've been unable to explain. That we never were able to explain*".

Republican member of Congress *James G. Fulton* was one of those who suspected that the U.S. Air Force never told the whole truth regarding the UFO dilemma. Fulton was interviewed by *UPI*, and in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* March 31, 1966, he stated that "*the Air Force acts like a child who doesn't believe in ghosts and hides under a blanket, while at the same time keeps an eye open just in case*".

The reports were treated seriously by the press, yet the idea that Earth was visited by beings from other planets was never far away. Among the authors, several knowledgeable names are to be found. One of them was German rocket scientist *Willy Ley* (1906–1969) who also wrote several science-fiction stories. In an article in *Family Weekly*, January 21, 1968, he discusses different sightings which he believes to be ball lightning. Not once does Ley ridicule the phenomenon. He points out that the

sightings often are likely to have perfectly natural explanations.

Another author, not quite as critical, was *Otto Binder* (1911–1975), who wrote the book *“What we really know about flying saucers”*. Binder also published an article in nautical magazine *Rudder* magazine, February, 1968, where he offers advice to sailors what to do in case they have a sighting at sea. *“Many ships have returned to shore with far more insane stories than any of those about sea monsters,”* Binder wrote.

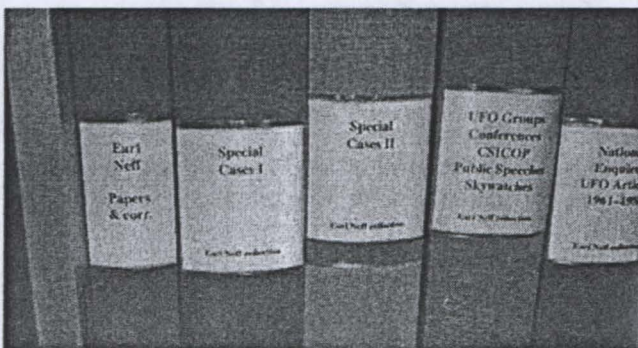
Science fiction writer

An odd UFO author was science-fiction author *Clifford D. Simak* (1904–1988), who in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* January 6, 1967, described how the two largest UFO organizations at the time, *APRO* and *NICAP*, worked. Under the headline *“Many sure flying saucers manned by aliens”* he said that while *APRO* accepted and investigated sightings where beings had been involved, *NICAP* shunned those sightings. The cause was strictly tactical. *NICAP* hoped to, one day, bring the UFO question to the highest political level including a congressional hearing, but since they feared being mixed up with crazies they assumed that focusing strictly on the ships would minimize that risk. Simak’s article was part of a series of six which all were published in the *Pittsburgh* magazine.

Among the material there are several classic articles, such as the *UPI* article about astronomer and Air Force expert *Allen Hynek* (1910–1986) and the press conference that took place after numerous sightings had been made in Ann Arbor, Michigan. The article was published in, among other magazines, the *Daily Times-News* (Mt. Pleasant, Michigan) on March 26, 1966, under the headline *“Expert Dismisses flying saucers as swamp gas”*.

It resulted in giving the entire work of the Air Force an aura of ridicule since all sightings appeared to be explainable using the swamp gas theory. Even though Hynek, during the well-attended press conference, was keen to point out that his theory about the swamp gas only was applicable to *two* of the sightings reported from behind a college in Hillsdale on March 21, his statement still resulted in seriously negative press and also became the one final event that made Hynek quit working for the Air Force and Project Blue Book and instead devote his time to private investigations.

Between June and August, 1966, Hynek wrote the chief of the Air Force, and *Science* magazine, and more and more started to look like an individual who took UFOs very seriously. On January 12, 1968, *Cleveland Press* published a statement where Hynek accused the Air Force of making a poor job when investigating UFOs.



Several of the articles deal with sightings by pilots. In the *Salt Lake Tribune*, October 3, 1961, pilot *Waldo Harris* (who isn’t just named in the article, his *home address* is there, too!) tells of how he and seven witnesses on the ground saw a disc-shaped object shortly after take-off from Utah Central Airport. Harris says that the object was grey in colour, about 15 meters wide and only a little more than 1 meter thick. When he flew towards it, it suddenly took off with a tremendous speed. Harris followed and saw how it came to a halt over Utah Lake Omni Station. *“It then flew straight up and turned westwards with an amazing speed and disappeared out of sight,”* he tells the magazine.

And he was not alone. On February 25, 1959, the greater part of the front page of the *Detroit Times* was covered by an article headlined *“Mystery sky discs trail airliner here”*, with a picture of pilot *Peter Killian* and stewardesses *Edna LeGate* and *Beverly Pingree* holding one plate each. What the three of them and several others onboard the plane had seen during 45 minutes was how three glowing objects appeared to be following the plane while at the same time not showing up on any radar. There was never any drama though, and the article never mentions how they objects disappeared.

But there were other objects that were more obvious. On July 13, 1964, the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* told of how a strange projectile had travelled through, among other things, a thick glass door before it smashed into the cement floor of Mrs. *Howard W. Morgan* in Bay Village. The object could not be defined as a meteor even though that was the initial definition. What it really was was apparently never established. On the picture published in the magazine one can see Mrs. Morgan with a large, dark object in her hand. Perhaps it was part of a satellite?

Another interesting story concerns a student at the *Warner & Swasey* laboratory, who is interviewed by the magazine, and tells of two other events where real meteorites fell to earth. One of them struck a hole in the roof of a garage in Chicago, and continued through the roof of a car and then came to rest in the exhaust pipe. On the other occasion, the meteorite struck a hole in a porch and then fell down into the hand of a woman sitting there.

Stalkers and Men in black

Several other articles offer similar beauties. For instance, an article in the *Pittsburgh Press* March 5, 1967, with the headline *“Visitors from outer space”*, where author *David Gleason* argues that U.S. Air Force and NORAD are looking for a few individuals who dress in military uniforms and, using fake IDs, track down witnesses, silence them, and steal their photographs. According to the article, these men had been seen in California, New Jersey, Washington, Texas, Connecticut, and Long Island. Other odd figures that sometimes appear in print are the Men in Black, who among other places can be found in a note from *Congress of Scientific Ufologists* Convention in Cleveland (*Cleveland Press* June 22, 1968). One of the delegates apparently came up with the idea that the MIBs were ufologists in disguise from rival organization *NICAP*.

The most obvious trend in the articles from 1966 to 1967 is how serious the “flying saucer” phenomenon is being treated. Long articles by journalists such as *John*

Keel discussed the subject from a range or different aspects.

Beginning in 1968, the number of articles and sightings start to wane. This was brought to our attention by Florida-based magazine *The Gondolier* on August 1 that very year. The magazine concluded that the Aerial Phenomenon Office at the Wright-Patterson base, where Blue Book had its headquarters, as well as NICAP, had started to notice a "strong decrease" in reports coming in. Blue Book alone was apparently losing up to 75 percent.

On March 12, 1967, *Sunday News* began a series of articles where *Ed Wallace* said that five million Americans claimed to have seen a flying saucer. The series contained descriptions of what today have become true classics, such as police officer *Lonnie Zamora's* sighting of a landed object in the desert outside Socorro, Texas, on April 24, 1964, and the Kelly-Hopkinsville case from August 21, 1955, when the entire *Sutton* family claimed to have been under siege by "little green men" for several hours.

Among the clippings there are several interesting interviews with ufologists (Keyhoe, Hynek, and others), witnesses, and contactees (such as *Paul Villa* and *Daniel Fry*). Fry, who says the number of witnesses is not five but eight million, got a large section of the front page in *The Gondolier* on February 6, 1967, after he had paid a visit to the city of Venice. He was, just as most other who told stories of amazing trips in flying saucers, treated quite well by the reporter interviewing him.

Another thing found in the collection is about 100 articles from tabloid magazine *National Enquirer* from Boca Raton, Florida. Even though the magazine wasn't exactly known for serious journalism, it still had a few decent UFO articles over the years. The entire archive of the magazine was doomed; original pictures, notes, recordings, and clippings were shredded after being put into special plastic bags in the summer of 2003. All this happened because of the anthrax virus. On September 19, 2001, little more than a week after 9/11, *Bob Stevens*, the magazine's photo editor, opened a letter addressed to singer *Jennifer Lopez*. The letter contained anthrax, which killed Stevens within three weeks and quickly spread throughout the building, which was evacuated, leaving everything inside to its doom. Three million pictures, notebooks, tape recordings, and other things of historical value is now destroyed and lost forever even though the tabloids owner, *American Media Inc.*, says that most of the files were already duplicated.

Complete magazine issues could also be found in the clippings received from Bill Jones, among others a *National Enquirer* issue where the entire front page was covered by the news that a flying saucer had touched down in Virginia: "*Saucer lands in Virginia*". Reporter *William Allen* writes about *Cliff Crowder* from South Hill who on April 21, 1967, at nine in the evening, was driving along a dirt road when he saw an enormous object hovering over the road. Soon Crowder spotted an object six metres high, standing in the middle of the road. A flashing light hit him, and the object appeared to disappear upwards. A small fire remained on the road, but it went out after about twenty seconds.

Cliff Crowder drove straight to the local police station. When he returned to the scene with four police officers from South Hill and Mecklenburg County, the ground was

still warm and a large dark spot was visible where the fire had been. The site was later investigated by several ufologists, among others *William Powers* who worked as an assistant to Allen Hynek. Pieces from the burnt spot were sent to the Wright-Patterson base in Dayton, Ohio, but test results were inconclusive. It was never known what caused the fire.

That was a short summary of a part of the Earl Neff papers, papers that are now glued on white document paper and sorted into twenty file folders.

A complete volume-by-volume index can be found at the AFU web site: www.afu.info/clipsus.htm

Acquisitions through eBay enriches the AFU reference library

One of the problems our reference library has faced since the start, 30 years ago, is that we have not been able to buy the new, or relatively new, UFO-related literature. This problem has been solved in a double way by the introduction of eBay, the American trading site on the Internet.

A copy of a newly published American UFO book usually costs some 20 US dollars + shipping to Sweden. With eBay we can now buy the same book for maybe 5 US dollars + shipping. We can also save on shipping by trying to plan for buying several items from the same seller/dealer. *In the past three years AFU has bought more than 700 titles this way.* Some of the books are quite obscure, by 'serious ufology' standards, including New Age and Channeling books with a (weak, but yet...) UFO connection.

To part-finance our eBay acquisitions, AFU has also carried through two sales campaigns of our own, on eBay. We trade unneeded copies, received from donors, against money or (sometimes) we agree with some buyer on a more direct trade against copies of materials we would want to preserve here.

The last sale, in October-November 2005, brought in about 1.400 US dollars, money that we intend to use also for *buying new shelves* and *to meet shipping costs* of items/collections that we acquire, or mail to other archives/collectors as exchange objects. Old UFO magazine collections have proven to be especially attractive to buyers/collectors, sometimes generating bids of several hundred dollars.

Final deal on French collection

Through the kind intervention of our colleague *Edoardo Russo* of *CISU* (the Italian national UFO organization), a final deal has been made with *Perry Petrakis* for a group of European archival organizations to jointly take over the French *SOS-OVNI* organization's archives. The hand over took place on Saturday, December 17.

The materials were delivered in 30 large boxes to the French group SCEAU, an organization that acquires and cares for French-language UFO-related collections in co-operation with the French National Archives. The AFU contribution of 3.000 Euros to this joint deal was paid to Petrakis through the hands of Jacques Scornaux, chairman of SCEAU, and was joined by similar contributions of 2.500 Euros from SCEAU members and 2.000 Euros from CISU and Russo.

AFU's part of the deal is smaller than first expected. 1.500 Euros of the money originally collected, through a Swedish-international collection organized in 2003-2004 by Clas Svahn, were spent on buying two very important Swedish collections, both of them in the spring of 2005. At that time we had somehow lost faith in the possibility of a final agreement with Mr. Petrakis. The AFU contribution is directed towards the books & monographs in the Petrakis collection, about 400 items, while SCEAU will keep the non-print archival materials (correspondence, UFO reports etc) in France. We are currently investigating the cheapest way of transporting this heavy weight from France to Sweden. Anyone visiting France?

AFU audio cassette library catalogued

Through the diligent work of *Katarina Otréus*, the most important 50 % part of our audio cassette collection has been catalogued as an Excel file. Since the audio archive includes many – more or less – private tapes (interviews and other recordings) we cannot publish the entire database, as it is, on the Internet but the index file is available for anyone with a serious interest.

The audio cassettes catalogued come from several collections previously received from Swedish researchers and collectors.

One primary source, with regular updates of new interview tapes, is UFO-Sweden's chairman *Clas Svahn*. He has consistently saved all his telephone and face-to-face interviews with UFO witnesses and UFO/phenomena-related people since the start of his UFO interest in the mid-1970s. All of these tapes are now catalogued by date, category, interviewed person, and most details readily available on the cassette's table of contents, without listening to the tape. Other collections of audio tapes come from *Ulf Ekstedt*, *Boris Jungkvist*, *Brage Jansson*, *Gunnar Lindberg*, *Carl-Axel Jonzon*, *Thorvald Berthelsen*, and from *Håkan Blomqvist* & *Anders Liljegren* of the AFU board.



Katarina Otréus with the result of her two-month work with AFU behind her back – more than 1.000 cassette tapes neatly catalogued.

Another large group of tapes is radio programs which have increased immensely in numbers with the start of a large number of regional and local radio stations in Sweden since the 1970's, some of them even working on

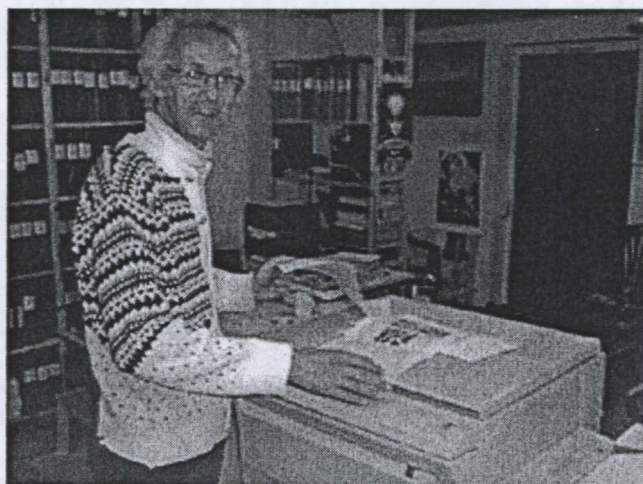
idealistic foundations. The UFO subject has become an often returned-to theme at these stations.

It is planned to conclude the cataloguing of the tape library during 2006 with cataloguing of '*the Monday group*' collection (hundreds of taped public lectures on New Age and phenomenal subjects) and the *Gunnar Lindberg* collection (very heavy on channelled, sometimes UFO-related materials), plus a number of other small collections.

This is all a ground work before a coming project to transfer *the best and most unique tapes* to be preserved in digital format. Next we also plan cataloguing of our VHS and CD/DVD collections. Printed media has long been the main part of collections received – a situation that is now slowly changing. We are following that track.

List of international contactee cases prepared by AFU archivist

Sven-Olov Svensson has been the AFU archivist since 1980. Filing and keeping track of all the material that flows into AFU is his daily business. But Sven-Olov has a long-time interest and experience in UFOs, and particularly the contactee cases, since about 1970. He was one of the keenest borrowers of books from the AFU library during the first years, before taking over as the lending librarian when the collection moved to Norrköping in 1980.



Sven-Olov Svensson at the copier with yet another source for his catalogue of international contactee cases.

With unrestricted access to one of the world's largest UFO libraries he has been cataloguing a continuous stream of contact-related literature throughout the years. His *catalogue of more than 1.200 published contactee cases* (face-to-face contacts, abductions, and psychic/channelled contacts) has been long in preparation. In fact, we made an attempt as early as the 1980s to get it to a printer by typing the file into a computer. That file was tragically lost, shortly before completion, due to a memory crash.

The original catalogue was in Swedish but has now been translated into English by *Stefan Isaksson*, AFU and UFO-Sweden co-worker, who shares Sven-Olov's interest in contactees (Stefan has 'wallraffed' within, and written a published study about, the Raëlian UFO cult). The translated file is now updated with new and better source references by Sven-Olov. It has not yet been decided upon

which form a publication of this list will take – we hope to get in on the Internet as a searchable file of contactee folklore.

Recent and upcoming books

- "Books that would find a home in the AFU library"

May Bach: Dialog mit einer anderen Welt. Im biologischen Internet der All-ten. 2005, Argo, Germany, hardcover, 312 pages, ISBN 3-9808745-2-4. (Judging from the cover this is a UFO-related book).

Colin Bennett: American demonology: flying saucers over the White House. Captain Edward J. Ruppelt and the official UFO investigation of the United States Air Force. May 2005, Diagonal, softcover, 192 pages, ISBN 1-90048646-6. (Hope this is the long-needed biography of Ruppelt!).

Luc Bürgin: OVNI sur la Suisse. Les dossiers de l'armée de l'air. October 2005, Aldane Editions, Cointin, Switzerland, softcover, 276 pages, illustrated, ISBN 2-940374-00-7. (This is the French augmented French version of *UFOs über der Schweiz – Das Dossier der Luftwaffe*, published by Kopp Verlag. Very kindly donated to AFU by the Swiss publishers *Alain Stauffer & Daniel Benaroya*, web site at: www.aldane.com).

Jamuna Carroll & Thomson Gale: UFOs. (Introducing issues with opposing viewpoints). March 2006, Greenhaven Press, hardcover, paging unknown, ISBN 073773227X. (Comes in a series of debate books on many subjects issues, from Television to Marijuana).

Guy Capet: OVNI en Champagne-Ardenne. Témoignages sur les "soucoupes volantes". Sept 2005, Gueniot, France, softcover, 98 pages, ISBN 2-87825-330-2. (Regional study of French cases).

Susan Clancy: Abducted: how people come to believe they were kidnapped by aliens. Oct 2005, Harvard University Press, hardcover, 179 pages, ISBN 0-67401879-6. (Clinical psychologist studies abductees in the lab and finds out they are most likely victims of false memories).

Jerome Clark: Unnatural phenomena. A guide to bizarre wonders of North America. June 2005, ABC Clío, hardcover, 369 pages, ISBN 1-57607430-7. (Compilation of all kinds of Fortean phenomena priced at a surprising 85 dollars!).

Janet Elizabeth Colli: Sacred encounters: spiritual awakening during close encounters. Dec 2004, Xlibris, USA, hardcover/softcover, 357 pages, ISBN 1-4134-3675-7. (Pd.D. transpersonal psychologist explores the psychological layers of two UFO experiencers).

Patrick Cooke: The greatest deception: the bible UFO connection. Aug. 2005, Oracle Research Publishing, softcover, 468 pages, ISBN 0-97243473-9. (Well, this book has been written many-a-times, it seems. I thought out a version of it at high school in 1969, after having read the Bible like a ufologist should read it).

Erich & Cornelia von Däniken: Der Mystery Park. Die Geschichte, die Menschen. Alle texte - alle Quellen. Ausführliche Kommentare. 2005, Mystery Parks, Interlaken, Switzerland, softcover, 205 pages, ISBN 3-9522858-1-1. (The story of the creation of von Däniken's 'ancient astronaut' theme park. Clas Svahn brought us a copy of this from his recent trip to Interlaken to interview Erich von Däniken and astronaut Edgar Mitchell).

Robert Farrell: Alien log. 2004, R E Farrell Books, Peoria, Arizona, softcover, 263 pages, ISBN 0-97591160-0. (Seemingly a wellwritten SF story focusing on UFO crashes and with a follow-up to come. You can read excerpts from the book at www.oncewritten.com/FirstChapters/Title.php?TID=AlienLog).

Peter Fiebag, Algund Eenboom and Peter Belting: Flugzeuge der Pharaonen. 2004, Kopp Verlag, hardcover, 328 pages, ISBN 3-930219808. (Another one in the seemingly endless flow of German astro-archeology, now promoted also by the inauguration of Erich von Däniken's theme park at Interlaken in Switzerland).

Didier Gomez: Apparitions insolites en Occitanie. Récits d'autrefois et témoignages OVNI d'aujourd'hui en pays Tarnais. 2005, Planète OVNI, Lombers, France, ringbound, 130 pages, ISBN unknown. (Regional study of supernatural incidents and folklore in the French province of Tarn – more info on www.studiovni.com/appinsolocc.htm).

Loren E. Gross: The fifth horseman of the apocalypse. UFO's: a history. 1962, January – June & 1962, July – December. 2005, the author, Fremont, California, ringbound booklets, 87+89 pages, no ISBN. (Kindly received from the compiler-author this autumn).

Bonnie Henderson: UFOs: out of the black. Oct 2005, Allegheny Press, softcover, 256 pages, ISBN 0-91004290-X. (Investigation of how top secret aircraft have been concealed as UFOs).

Matthew Holm & Jonathan Follett: Gray highway: an American UFO journey. Dec. 2005, Toadspittle Hill Productions, softcover, 172 pages, ISBN 0966604423. (Seems to be one that starts where *Bryant & Helen Reeve* and *Douglas Curran* left you hanging in suspense...)

Ray Holm: The range of reality: the secret of the UFOs. Febr 2005, PublishAmerica, softcover, 181 pages, ISBN 1-41375878-9. (Is this SF or honest reporting by a contactee?)

James Houran: A search for meaning in the Ramey document from the Roswell UFO case. 2006, Fund for UFO Research, booklet, 76 pages, ISBN unknown.

Jesper Jerkert & Sven-Ove Hansson (editors): Vetenskap eller villfarelse. 2005, Leopard förlag, Stockholm, Sweden, hardcover, 348 pages, index, ISBN 91-7343-085-4. (Swedish academics debunking all kinds of phenomena, UFOs included – CSICOP style).

William E. Jones (editor): UFOs, serious business? Absolutely. Classic cases. [Volume 1]. 2005, Mutual UFO Network of Ohio, booklet, 32 pages. (Privately distributed by the author, AFU has also received an expanded edition of 44 pages).

William E. Jones (editor): UFOs, serious business? Absolutely. Hints of the reality. [Volume 2]. 2005, Mutual UFO Network of Ohio, booklet, 32 pages. (Privately distributed by the author).

Tapani Koivula (editor): Uforaportti 12. Ufotutkimuksen vuosikirja 2005. 2005, Suomen Ufotutkijat ry, softcover, 190 pages, ISBN 952-99618-0-4. (This is the annual yearbook from the Finnish UFO investigators, the 12th in a row – preceded also by a simpler annual in the early 1990s called *Vuosiraportti*. As far as we know there is no specialized regular UFO mag in Finnish – this compensates for that! Find out more at www.suomenufotutkijat.fi/)

Janja Lalich: Bounded choice: True believers and charismatic cults. 2004, University of California Press, Berkeley, softcover, 329 pages, ISBN 0-520-23194-5. (Comparative study of Heaven's Gate and a Marxist political collective).

Richard Leviton: Signs of the earth: deciphering the message of Virgin Mary apparitions, UFO encounters and crop circles. June 2005, Hampton Roads Publishing, softcover, 268 pages, ISBN 1-57174246-8.

Rob MacGregor & Bruce Gernon: The fog: a never before published theory of the Bermuda triangle phenomenon. 2005, Llewellyn, softcover, 208 pages, ISBN unknown. (A new theory of "electronic fog").

Michael Michaud: Contact with alien civilizations: our hopes and fears encountering extraterrestrials. June 2006, Springer, hardcover, 400 pages, ISBN 0-38728598-9.

MUFON 2005 International UFO symposium proceedings. "Unconventional flying objects: the body of technological evidence, part II". 36th annual international UFO symposium proceedings. 2005, MUFON, Morrison, Colorado, softcover, 278 pages, no ISBN. (Aztec, abductions and ETs are the usual subjects of this annual on the status of US 'mainstream' ufology).

Enola Nicks: Side effect: testament of a contactee. July 2005, Ecce Nova, Canada, softcover, 92 pages, ISBN 0-97353414-1. (A female abductee who doubts that the creatures who abduct her are ETs).

V. M. Rabolu: Hercolobus, or red planet. 2004, Editrice Coradi, Varese, Italy, softcover, 57 pages, ISBN 0-9533331-8-3. (The book of this Colombian contactee – pseudonym for one *Joaquin Enrique Amórtégui Valbuena* are spreading like viruses over the globe. The website www.hercolobus.net reports that it is "diffused" in no less than 42 countries, even a Swedish edition! Quite a lame story compared to that of Raël/Claude Vorilhon...)

Mary Rodwell: Awakening: how E.T. contact can transform your life. June 2005, Avatar, softcover, 246 pages, ISBN 0-97384420-5. (Second book by this abductee who prefers to see the good in the visitors' agenda).

Sherry Shriner: The Bible code revealed: the coming UFO invasion. Jan. 2005, iUniverse, softcover, 155 pages, ISBN 0-59533559-4. (The Bible story again this time taking a jump start from President 'Ike's' rumoured meeting with ETs in 1954).

Jean Sider: OVNI: creatures de l'humanité. Febr 2005, JMG Editions, France, 373 pages, ISBN 2-91516433-9.

David Simpson: Conclusions from controlled UFO hoaxes. 2005, Institute for Cultural Research, Nottingham, booklet, 32 pages, ISBN 0-904674-38-X. (Simpson and friends test UFO beliefs with a series of hoaxes).

Linda Joy Singleton: Oh no! UFO! 2004, Llewellyn Worldwide, St. Paul, Minnesota, softcover, 177 pages, ISBN 0-7387-0579-9. (A fiction book for young readers about the Strange (!) family, there is a sequel, *Shamrocked*, about this family's adventures with the little people near Mount Shasta).

Brad Steiger & Sherry Hansen Steiger: Conspiracies and secret societies: The complete dossier. Jan 2006, Visible Ink/Omnigraphics, Detroit, Michigan, hardcover, 550 pages, ISBN 0-7808-0921-1 (1-5785-9174-0 for softcover). (An A-Z encyclopedia of 300 individuals, organizations and events connected with the world of

conspiracy – everything from Alien autopsies to Jim Hoffa).

Michael D. Swords (editor): Grass roots UFOs – case reports from the Timmerman files. 2005, Fund for UFO Research (FUFOR), softcover, 251 pages, illustrated, ISBN unknown. (Witness reports collected by John P. Timmerman during his tours with the CUFOS exhibition).

Jean-Pierre Troadec, Daniel Robin, Laurent Merle & Bernard Jolivet: OVNI: le mystère subsiste. 2005, Editions Les Confins, Lyon, France, 250 pages, includes bibliography, ISBN 2-9522230-1-7. (Another regional study).

Bon Trubshaw (editor): Explore phantom black dogs. June 2005, Albion Press, UK, softcover, 160 pages, ISBN 1-87288378-8. (British local folklorists on phantom animals sighted in the countryside).

Alfred Lambremont Webre: Exopolitics: politics, government and law in the universe. April 2005, Universebooks, Canada softcover, 165 pages, ISBN 0-9737663-0-1. (Available from www.universebooks.com)

Jean-Jacques Velasco & Nicolas Montigiani: OVNI: L'evidence. April 2004, Carnot, Chatou, France, softcover, 220 pages, ISBN 2-84855-054-6. (This book is by the former of the French official UFO study – the French *Nick Pope* or *Allen Hynek* – no other comparison intended!).

Maurizio Verga: ITACAT. II catalogo Italiano degli atterraggi UFO. Volume I, 1912-1954. (Documenti UFO). 2005. Edizioni UPIAR, CISU, Torino Italy, softcover A4 size, 171 pages, illustrated, ISBN unknown. (We exchanged with the author to get this fine catalogue of Italian landing cases (up to and including 1954 with a lot of clippings and contemporary SF publications reprinted. I didn't find this (yet) in the UPIAR store on www.upiar.com but I am sure it will soon be there).

Ryan S. Wood: MAJIC Eyes Only: Earth's encounters with extraterrestrial technology. Foreword by Jim Marrs. Nov 2005, Wood Enterprises, hardcover, 328 pages, ISBN 0-97720590-8. (Wood has done – again - what Randle did a few years ago: collect 74 crashes in a book).

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God Jul och Gott Nytt 2006!

Bilaga till AFU Newsletter # 50, december 2005.

Dags för en nyårsbetraktelse till "UFO-arkivets" trogna vänner. Har ni också märkt att tiden accelererar ju större årtalssiffran (och därmed den egna åldern) blir? Någon borde skriva en bok om *det* fenomenet!

2005 har snart passerat och arkivets styrelse har äntligen lyckats avverka ett kombinerat årsmöte för de båda verksamhetsåren 2003 och 2004. *De här åren har varit arbetsamma på arkivet.* Samlingarna tenderar att flöda ("forsa", börjar snart bli rätt ord...) in i en allt stridare ström och man undrar ibland vart allt detta "ska ta vägen"? Som med det mesta, så finns det både en rolig "uppsida" och en mindre rolig "nedsida".

Låt oss börja med "uppsidan". Ni som regelbundet följer AFU:s hemsida www.afu.info (nås numera även via www.afu.se) ser att vi får in många samlingar. Mer material än vi orkar redovisa i detalj i AFU Newsletter. Senast har jag, förra veckan, packat upp en kartong med de intressanta resterna av danska SUFOI:s nedlagda bibliotek.

I går (18/12) fick jag en e-post från Jacques Scornaux, ordförande i den franska arkivföreningen SCEAU, som berättar att man i lördags (17/12) hämtat den 30 kartonger stora samlingen från Perry Petrakis och den nedlagda föreningen SOS-OVNI. Det har gått mer än 2 år sedan Clas Svahn tog initiativ till insamlingen. Tack alla ni som så generöst bidrog när Clas ringde! Clas' insamling + italienaren Edoardo Russo's envisa förhandlingar med Petrakis + Jacques Scornaux's arbete med att organisera övertagandet gav till slut resultat. "EU"-samarbete i sin prydno skulle man kunna säga. Nu försöker vi organisera transport av 400 böcker till Sverige. *Vet du något billigt sätt så hör av dig!*

AFU:s boksamling fortsätter att växa så det riktigt knakar i hyllorna - hittills i år med 382 titlar. Ett annat av årets genomförda projekt är en förteckning över cirka 1 200 ljudbandskassetter, bl.a. Clas Svahns hela intervjusamling och alla radioprogram. Katarina Otréus gjorde en riktig kämpainsats med detta under ett par månader hos oss. Snart är dessutom hela 1970-talets rikhaltiga samling av tidningsklipp (vi har just passerat 9 000 registerposter) inknappade i vår databas. Sandra Aronsson jobbar med detta, nästan dagligen.

Alla svenska UFO-rapporter från 1995-1996-1997 är registrerade i ScanCat och vi sorterar nu resten av "liggande" rapporter för registrering under det kommande året. Detta är "Anci" Mårdhs projekt. Sven-Olov Svensson kämpar tappert med alla högar med inkommande böcker och tidskrifter som jag lämnar vidare efter katalogisering i våra databaser, samtidigt som han letar källor till sitt 35-åriga (tala om tålamod!) projekt med en internationell katalog över "alla" kontaktfall. En katalog som Stefan Isaksson förtjänstfullt har översatt till en engelsk publik. Själv jobbar jag med bl.a. webbplatsen och ekonomin – tyvärr har vi missat en del utskick av inbetalningskort under året och därmed ditt stöd.

Snälla ni som stödjer oss, fundera på att själv arrangera en stående överföring direkt via banken! Det är numera möjligt till vilket konto som helst, i varje fall fungerar det Nordea → Plusgirot = vårt pluskonto 49 07 14-3. Traditionellt autogiro kan vi däremot inte arrangera – det är bara till för stora företag som klarar att lämna en datafil varje månad.

En "nedsida" jag vill nämna: förestående stambyten och renoveringar i de fastigheter där vi har våra tre arkiv. Troligen når man fram till vår äldsta lokal redan under nästa år. Det går värme-, avlopps- och vattenrör genom alla våra lokaler så vi tvingas nog utrymma, den ena lokalen efter den andra. Jag ser framför oss *sex flyttar* – ut och in igen i 3 olika arkiv. Tanken har väckts på en flytt till en ny större lokal i Norrköping med allt under ett och samma tak – gärna nyrenoverat och utan rör i taket (vattenrör ingår inte som en ingrediens i Riksarkivets anvisningar för arkivlokaler!). Just nu finns säkert minst 70 000 kvm tomma lokalytor i staden Norrköping – ibland jättefina lokaler i gamla kulturhus - men till vilka priser!!!

Sköt om er inför, och under, det nya året!

Anders Liljegren